NUMB. CCCCVIII.

The SPECTATOR.

Decet affectus animi neque ſe nimium erigere, nec ſubjacere ſerviliter. Tull. de Finibus.

Wedneſday, June 18. 1712.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

'I Have always been a very great Lover of your Speculations, as well in Regard to the Subject, as to your Manner of treating it. Humane Nature I always thought the moſt uſeful Object of humane Reaſon, and to make the Conſideration of it pleaſant and entertaining, I always thought the beſt Employment of humane Wit: Other Parts of Philoſophy may perhaps make us wiſer, but this not only anſwers that End, but makes us better too. Hence it was that the Oracle pronounced *Socrates* the wiſeſt of all Men living, becauſe he judiciouſly made Choice of humane Nature for the Object of his Thoughts; an Enquiry into which as much exceeds all other Learning, as it is of more Conſequence to adjuſt the true Nature and Meaſures of Right and Wrong, than to ſettle the Diſtance of the Planets, and compute the Times of their Circumvolutions.

'One good Effect that will immediately ariſe from a near Obſervation of humane Nature, is, that we ſhall ceaſe to wonder at thoſe Actions which Men are uſed to reckon wholly unaccountable; for as nothing is produced without a Cauſe, ſo by obſerving the Nature and Courſe of the Paſſions, we ſhall be able to trace every Action from its firſt Conception to its Death: We ſhall no more admire at the Proceedings of *Cataline* or *Tiberius*, when we know the one was actuated by a cruel Jealouſy, the other by a furious Ambition; for the Actions of Men follow their Paſſions as naturally as Light does Heat, or as any other Effect flows from its Cauſe; Reaſon muſt be employed in adjuſting the Paſſions, but they muſt ever remain the Principles of Action.

'The ſtrange and abſurd Variety that is ſo apparent in Mens Actions, ſhews plainly they can never proceed immediately from Reaſon; ſo pure a Fountain emits no ſuch troubled Waters: They muſt neceſſarily ariſe from the Paſſions, which are to the Mind as the Winds to a Ship, they only can move it, and they too often deſtroy it; if fair and gentle they guide it into the Harbour, if contrary and furious they overſet it in the Waves: In the ſame Manner is the Mind aſſiſted or endangered by the Paſſions; Reaſon muſt then take the Place of Pilot, and can never fail of ſecuring her Charge if ſhe be not wanting to her ſelf: The Strength of the Paſſions will never be accepted as an Excuſe for complying with them; they were deſigned for Subjection, and if a Man ſuffers them to get the upper Hand, he then betrays the Liberty of his own Soul.

'As Nature has framed the ſeveral Species of Beings as it were in a Chain, ſo Man ſeems to be placed as the middle Link between Angels and Brutes: Hence he participates both of Fleſh and Spirit by an admirable Tie, which in him occaſions perpetual War of Paſſions; and as a Man inclines to the angelick or brute Part of his Conſtitution, he is then denominated good or bad, virtuous or wicked; if Love, Mercy, and good Nature prevail, they ſpeak him of the Angel; if Hatred, Cruelty, and Envy predominate, they declare his Kindred to the Brute. Hence it was that ſome of the Ancients imagined, that as Men in this Life inclined more to the Angel or the Brute, ſo after their Death they ſhould tranſmigrate into the one or the other; and it would be no unpleaſant Notion to conſider the ſeveral Species of Brutes, into which we may imagine that Tyrants, Miſers, the Proud, Malicious, and Ill-natured might be changed.

'As a Conſequence of this Original, all Paſſions are in all Men, but all appear not in all; Conſtitution, Education, Cuſtom of the Country, Reaſon, and the like Cauſes, may improve or abate the Strength of them, but ſtill the Seeds remain, which are ever ready to ſprout forth upon the leaſt Encouragement. I have heard a Story of a good religious Man, who, having been bred with the Milk of a Goat, was very modeſt in Publick by a careful Reflection he made on his Actions, but he frequently had an Hour in Secret, wherein he had his Friſks and Capers; and if we had an Opportunity of examining the Retirement of the ſtricteſt Philoſophers, no Doubt but we ſhould find perpetual Returns of thoſe Paſſions they ſo artfully conceal from the Publick. I remember *Machiavel* obſerves, that every State ſhould entertain a perpetual Jealouſy of its Neighbours, that ſo it ſhould never be unprovided when an Emergency happens; in like Manner ſhould the Reaſon be perpetually on its Guard againſt the Paſſions, and never ſuffer them to carry on any Deſign that may be deſtructive of its Security; yet at the ſame Time it muſt be careful, that it don't ſo far break their Strength as to render them contemptible, and conſequently it ſelf unguarded.

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'The Understanding being of its self too slow and lazy to exert it self into Action, it's necessary 'it should be put in Motion by the gentle Gales of 'the Passions, which may preserve it from stagna- 'ting and Corruption; for they are as necessary 'to the Health of the Mind, as the Circulation of 'the animal Spirits is to the Health of the Body; 'they keep it in Life, and Strength, and Vigour; 'nor is it possible for the Mind to perform its 'Offices without their Assistance: These Motions 'are given us with our Being, they are little Spi- 'rits that are born and dye with us; to some they 'are mild, easy, and gentle, to others wayward 'and untuly, yet never too strong for the Reins of 'Reason and the Guidance of Judgment.

'We may generally observe a pretty nice Propor- 'tion between the Strength of Reason and Passion; 'the greatest Genius's have commonly the strongest 'Affections, as on the other Hand, the weaker 'Understandings have generally the weaker Passi- 'ons; and 'tis fit the Fury of the Coursers should 'not be too great for the Strength of the Cha- 'rioteer. Young Men whose Passions are not a 'little unruly, give small Hopes of their ever be- 'ing considerable; the Fire of Youth will of 'Course abate, and is a Fault, if it be a Fault, 'that mends every Day; but surely unless a Man 'has Fire in Youth, he can hardly have Warmth in 'Old age. We must therefore be very cautious, 'least while we think to regulate the Passions, we 'should quite extinguish them, which is putting 'out the Light of the Soul; for to be without 'Passion, or to be hurried away with it, makes a 'Man equally blind. The extraordinary Severity 'used in most of our Schools has this fatal Effect, 'it breaks the Spring of the Mind, and most cer- 'tainly destroys more good Genius's than it can 'possibly improve. And surely 'tis a mighty Mis- 'take that the Passions should be so intirely sub- 'dued; for little Irregularities are sometimes not 'only to be born with, but to be cultivated too, 'since they are frequently attended with the great- 'est Perfections. All great Genius's have Faults 'mixed with their Virtues, and resemble the fla- 'ming Bush which has Thorns among Lights.

'Since therefore the Passions are the Principles 'of humane Actions, we must endeavour to ma- 'nage them so as to retain their Vigour, yet keep 'them under strict Command; we must govern 'them rather like free Subjects than Slaves, least 'while we intend to make them obedient, they be- 'come abject, and unfit for those great Purposes to 'which they were designed. For my Part I must 'confess, I could never have any Regard to that 'Sect of Philosophers, who so much insisted upon 'an absolute Indifference and Vacancy from all 'Passion; for it seems to me a thing very incon- 'sistent for a Man to divest himself of Humanity, 'in order to acquire Tranquility of Mind, and to 'eradicate the very Principles of Action, because 'it's possible they may produce ill Effects.

I am,

SIR,

Your affectionate Admirer,

T. B.

AT the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market, on Saturday next, being the 21st Day of June, will be performed an English Opera call'd Calypso and Telemachus. The Boxes 8 s. Pit 5 s. first Gallery 2 s. 6 d. upper Gallery 1 s. 6 d. Boxes upon the Stage half a Guinea. To begin exactly at 7. N. B. This Opera will not be perform'd to Day, but is put off till Saturday.

This Opera is sold by E. Sanger at the Post-Office in Fleet-street.

At the Desire of several Persons of Quality.

For the Benefit of Mr. Bickerstaff and Mr. Newman.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre-Royal in Drury-Lane, to Morrow being Thursday, the 19th of June, will be presented a Play call'd the Indian Emperor, or the Conquest of Mexico by the Spaniards. The Part of Cortez by Mr. Powell, Cydaria by Mrs. Sherborn, Montezuma by Mr. Keene, Odmar by Mr. Mills, Guyomar by Mr. Booth, Orbellan by Mr. Bullock jun. Almeria by Mrs. Knight, Alibech by Mrs. Rogers. With several Entertainments of Dancing by Mr. Prince, Mrs. Bicknell, and others. To which will be added a Farce of one Act only, call'd the Walking Statue, or the Devil in the Wine Cellar. Being positively the last Time of the Company's acting this Season.

For the Benefit of Miss PORTER.

At the Desire of several Ladies of Quality.

AT the Theatre the upper End of St. Martin's Lane near Litchfield Street, this present Wednesday, being the 18th of June, will be presented a Comedy call'd, The Busie Body. The Part of the Busie Body by young Pervil, Sir Jealous Traffick by young Bay, Sir George Airy by young Boman, Charles by young Mills, Whisper by young Norris, Miranda by Miss Younger, Isabella by Miss Porter, Patch by Miss Lydell, and all the other Parts by the best Advantage. With a new Epilogue by Miss Porter. Boxes 2 s. 6 d. Pit 1 s. 6 d. Gallery 1 s. Beginning exactly at 6 a Clock.

For SALE by the CANDLE.

To Morrow the 19th Instant, at Lloyd's Coffee-House in Lombard-street, at 4 in the Afternoon, (only 1 Hhd in a Lott) viz 100 Hhds of excellent new French Clarets, viz. Medoc, Segaux Obrion and others of the best Growths of France, deep, bright, strong, fresh, and of the true flavour, neat, and not one Hhd sold but imported by Messieurs Tourton and Guiguer, by a Swedish Ship call'd the Crowned Mary, being the 2d and last Ship arrived from Bourdeaux directly: Now in a Vault under Cloath-workers Hall in Mincing-Lane, between Fenchurch street and Tower-street. To be seen and tasted this Day from 7 to 1, and from 2 to 7, and all to Morrow from 7 to the time of Sale. Note, the Buyers are desired to appear punctually at the Hour appointed, the Sale being to be compleated without adjourning. To be sold by Tho. Tomkins, Broker, in Soething-lane in Tower street.

Wm Tazwell undertakes to accomplish Gentlemen, or other Persons of either Sex above the Age of 14 Years in the compleat knowledge of the Latin Tongue, and make them capable of rendring Latin into English, and English into Latin, (by the Attendance of an Hour at a time 3 Days in a Week) in 3 Months time from his first beginning to teach them, tho' they never knew the Language before: And that by an easie practical Method, entirely new, founded upon undeniable Reason and Experience, and wholly free from the tedious Forms of Schools, as not to require Study or Pains, or be in the least burthensome to the Memory, but pleasant as well as profitable, and does not tire the Person's Parts in Learning, or break the Thoughts from, or hinder any Business He is to be agreed with next the Blue Anchor and Crown in Prince's Street near Stocks-Market, the lower end of the Street, between the Hours of 2 and 6 in the Afternoon, his Business requiring Attendance Abroad in the Fore-noon.

The Houshold-Goods and Furniture late of Mr. Meager, will be sold by Auction this Day the 18th Instant, at his House in Suffolk street, the End next Charing-Cross, viz. Beds and Bedding, Peer and Chimney Glasses, Sconces, Window-Curtains, Chairs, a Table Clock with a Silver Dish-Plate, Screens and Arrows, Linnen and Pictures, with all sorts of Kitchen Goods, &c. To be seen till this Day, until the time of Sale, which will begin at one Clock precisely. Catalogues to be had at the House.

At the old Warehouse, is just now made up a fresh Parcel of Morning-Gowns for Men and Women of Broccade, rich Damasks, Sattens, Callicoes and Stuffs, with very fit Facings and linings; and will be sold much cheaper than the Shops can afford the Goods being bought of People that broke. Several pretend to sell under the same Notion, but the greatest Choice and best Pennyworths is at the golden Sugar-Loaf right against the Horse at Charing-Cross, with the newest sort of Canvis and Quilted Petticoats.

Newly Published,

The Second Part of the Judgment of the Church of England, in the Case of Lay-Baptism, and Dissenters Baptism. Sold by A. Baldwin near the Oxford-Arms in Warwick-Lane. Price Six-Pence.

An Infallible Cure for the Stone and Gravel whether in the Reins or Bladder, by an incomparable Cephalick Liquor, which in the most Racking Fits, gives instant ease, and Perfects frees the Patient from all Pains in the Back, and the Iliac Passion like the Cholick; dilates the Ureters, makes them slippery that the Stones and Gravel may pass from the Reins to be voided with the Urine, without pain; cleanses the Kidneys, Bladder, and all the Urinary Passages from slimy calculous Matter, certainly takes off all the Pain, and stoppage of Urine, and absolutely breaks and dissolves large Stones (possible to be dissolv'd) whether in Kidneys or Bladder so as entirely to Cure the Distemper; assuredly prevents the Stone in those that are troubled only with Gravel, and for all Disorders in the Reins and Bladder, is a stupendious Remedy, causing delightful and pleasant Rest and perfect Health. Is sold only at Jacobs Coffee-house against the Angel and Crown Tavern in Threadneedle-street by the Royal Exchange, at 3 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertisements are taken in; as also by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.